



## Bishop Stopford's School

### Governing Body Annual Statement 2021.22 and Strategic Priorities 2022.23

#### Vision

**Believe Strive Succeed**

**1 Corinthians 12:12**

**'the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body'**

Our vision is to provide an outstanding, inclusive and aspirational education for all our children. We believe that everyone in our community is capable of achieving beyond their expectations by living each day in all its fullness, spiritually, physically, intellectually, emotionally and morally. We are underpinned by deep rooted values of respect, consideration, loyalty, responsibility and success.

The governing body agreed the following **strategic priorities for 2020.21**

1. To develop a 3 to 5 year strategy
2. To increase student recruitment to Y7 and Y12
3. To operate within our agreed financial management plan

#### **3 to 5 year strategy**

Our intention was to focus on this in the latter part of the year when school life and governing body activity had re-established a more normal pattern of school after the Covid disruptions of the last 2 years. The government then published the White Paper and Schools Bill and so our strategic approach has been to engage fully with the LDBS consultation process and keep abreast of local and national thinking.

## **Student recruitment**

The EAL provision continues to flourish and increase numbers in all year groups, particularly in KS4, and we value the local authority's support for this. Y11 EAL students are able to progress to appropriate courses in our 6<sup>th</sup> form, and this continues to have a positive impact on Y12 numbers.

Leaders have continued to actively promote the school's achievements within the community. The external factors over which the school has little control remain the key influence on recruitment to Y7, for example changes in the population projections and the opening of new secondary schools. This remains a key priority.

## **Financial management**

The local authority has continued to support the school's long term financial management plan. Meaningful dialogue about long term financial viability takes place through regular meetings between LA officers, the diocesan board, Chair of Governors, Chair of Resources Committee, Headteacher and School Business Manager. The Resources Committee has continued to monitor the budget carefully to ensure that the school remains within the limits set in the plan. Significant savings have been achieved again in the 2021.22 financial year, enabling the deficit to be reduced by a further £250 000.

## **Strategic priorities for 2022.23**

1. To develop our medium to long term strategy whilst engaging fully with the LDBS response to the Schools Bill (and LA as appropriate)
2. To increase student recruitment to Y7 and Y12
3. To operate within our agreed financial management plan

September 2022